

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 28309

USNMR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, UR, RO

SUBJECT: UDR PARTY DELEGATION TO ROMANIA

REF: PARIS 27669 NOTAL

1. AT LUNCH AT THE RESIDENCE ON OCTOBER 28' JEAN-NOEL DE LIPKOWSKI, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UDR (GAULLIS PARTY) SPOKE TO ME AT LENGTH ABOUT HIS JUST COMPLETED VISIT TO ROMANIA AS HEAD OF A UDR DELEGATION.

2. DE LIPKOWSKI, A FORMER STATE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND CURRENTLY THE UDR FOREIGN POLICY SPECIALIST, SAID THAT HE HAD SPENT THREE HOURS WITH ROMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CHIEF CEAUCESCU. AMONG THE MOST
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INTERESTING POINTS TO EMERGE FROM THE MEETING WAS CEAUCESCU'S COMMENT THAT FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD

D'ESTAING HAD BEEN MORE THE "VICTIM" OF INTERNAL POLITICKING IN THE SOVIET UNION THAN OF ANY CHANGE IN BASIC SOVIET ATTITUDES TOWARD FRANCE (REFTEL). DE LIPKOWSKI MADE CLEAR THAT THE UDR CONSIDERED THE VISIT A SUCCESS TO THE EXTENT THAT A JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED AT THE END OF THE UDR/PCR TALKS. THE COMMUNIQUE STRESSED, INTER ALIA, THAT COOPERATION TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER QUESTIONS OF IDEOLOGY. DE LIPKOWSKI, WHO BROUGHT A COPY OF THE COMMUNIQUE TO LUNCH, POINTED OUT TO ME THAT THE ABOVE REMARK CAN ALMOST SURELY BE CONSIDERED A CRITICISM OF THE SOVIET UNION IN VIEW

OF BREZHNEV'S TOAST DURING GISCARD'S VISIT. THERE BREZHNEV STRESSED THAT DETENTE MEANS COOPERATION BUT THAT THE IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE REMAINS PARAMOUNT AND MUST CONTINUE IN SPITE OF THE NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

3. THE UDR/PCR COMMUNIQUE FURTHER NOTES THAT INTERNATIONAL DETENTE IS FAR FROM BEING ASSURED AND THAT THE HELSINKI DELEGATION MUST BE FOLLOWED UP AND ACTED UPON, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO DISARMAMENT. BOTH DELEGATIONS ALSO DECLARED THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PCF AND PCR WERE STRENGTHENED AS A RESULT OF THE VISIT AND THAT SUCH A RELATIONSHIP IS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION BETWEEN ROMANIA AND FRANCE.

4. THE FRENCH COMMUNIST DAILY, L'HUMANITE, IMMEDIATELY PICKED UP THE VISIT AND CRITICIZED THE PCR FOR FORMING RELATIONS WITH A PARTY THAT "DOES NOT REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE FRENCH PEOPLE, BUT RATHER THE INTERESTS OF BIG MONEY IN OUR COUNTRY." L'HUMANITE ADDED THAT PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN STATES WITH DIFFERENT POLITICAL REGIMES DOES NOT IMPLY "COLLABORATION BETWEEN COMMUNIST PARTIES AND REACTIONARY FORMATIONS."
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